

INDIA SEEMS ASSURED OF ANOTHER SATISFACTORY MONSOON

[Reprinted from *COMMERCE REPORTS* of September 26, 1927]

Present indications are that the 1927 monsoon, or rainy season, upon which the prosperity of India depends, will be a successful one, making the sixth successive favorable monsoon for the Empire. A cable received on September 6 from Trade Commissioner C. B. Spofford, Calcutta, states that rainfall to date has been generally normal throughout the greater part of the country.

A slight but not serious deficiency is reported from Bengal, Bihar, Jaipur, Bikaner and the northwest frontier, and a slight excess has fallen in eastern and central Provinces.

SEPTEMBER WEATHER IN THE BRITISH ISLES

[Reprinted from "*Nature*," October 8, 1927]

September was in most parts of the British Isles an even wetter month than was August, the total rainfall in some places being three times the normal. At Kew Observatory the total was 4.50 inches, compared with 4.06 inches in August. It is interesting to note that the records of rainfall in London since 1812 show that in two previous years—1852 and 1903—a run of wet months began in June. In 1852 the last seven months of the year yielded 28.08 inches, and in 1903, 26.81 inches, whereas the normal for the whole year is between 24 and 25 inches. In neither of these years, nor in any year previous to 1927, did the combined totals for August and September exceed 8 inches; consequently the total of 8.56 inches for the last two months is easily a record since 1812.

The immediate cause of the wet weather in September was the persistence of high atmospheric pressure in the neighborhood of Greenland. This caused frequent cold north or northeast winds over the Arctic Ocean, and these encountered warm southwesterly winds brought up from low latitudes round the anticyclone between the Azores and Bermuda. Such winds carry with them much moisture, especially in early autumn, and the interplay of the two currents resulted in the formation of numerous depressions, which were carried eastward across the British Isles by the upper winds from the west that prevail in temperate latitudes when there is a steep gradient of temperature from south to north. Moreover, the persistence of high pressure in the far north tended to prevent Atlantic depressions from wandering up into higher latitudes, and so allowing the Azores anticyclone to make those periodical excursions northeastward which are responsible for so many of our spells of dry sunny weather.

WEATHER IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD AS AFFECTING TRADE

Cable reviews to *Commerce Reports*

September 26, 1927, Argentina.—Crop conditions in Argentina so far are favorable, but lack of need rain is causing some concern. * * *

Australia.—Agricultural and pastoral conditions in western Australia are reported excellent. Some rain has fallen in South Australia, improving the agricultural outlook for that State, but pastoral regions are suffering yet. Conditions are fair in Victoria, but in New South Wales drought over the larger part of the State is causing important sheep losses. * * *

Hawaii.—Heavy rainfalls and high temperatures have continued unusually favorable to the growth of crops in Hawaii.

Europe.—The frequent rains have retarded harvesting and considerable damage has been done to the late oat and wheat crops. The outlook for sugar beets is excellent, provided cold weather does not set in. * * *

METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY FOR BRAZIL, AUGUST, 1927

By J. DE SAMPAIO FERRAZ, Director

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Six anticyclones crossed the southern part of the continent, and between their irruptions, high-latitude lows and the continental depression were very active. Weather was generally very unstable and several gales were registered in the southern coast up to Rio. Low-pressure systems were specially vigorous in the second week of the month. The fourth HIGH was particularly intense, and appeared on the 21st with a spell of cold weather and high winds. The fifth anticyclone moved rapidly to the northeast and was absorbed by the previous HIGH. All the high-pressure systems followed practically the northeast direction, which is rather irregular for the last month of winter.

Rainfall distribution was well under normal in the northern section of the country. In the center and south precipitation was very irregular as would be expected.

Crops generally doing well, and this year's big coffee harvest is almost ended. All over the country soil is being prepared for cane, tobacco, cereals and vegetables; wheat and the last two already being planted.

Rio's pressure was 1.7 millibars under normal, and temperature 0.1° C. below normal. Weather constantly unsettled. Two gales were registered, on the 4th and 13th. The last one reached 30 meters per second in the evening.

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RECENT ADDITIONS

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